

Providing Employment to Kin of Deceased

4786. SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme or policy in vogue in Chandigarh under which the next of the kin of deceased Government employees is provided employment;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total number of such pending cases in which employment is yet to be provided and the reasons for not providing employment in those cases till now; and

(d) the time by which the employment would be provided in all such cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The scheme for compassionate appointment of a dependent of a Government employee who dies in harness leaving his family in indigent circumstances applicable in respect of Central Government servants is also followed by Chandigarh Administration.

(c) and (d) The Chandigarh Administration have reported that about 58 applications for appointment on compassionate grounds are under various stages of consideration and that it would be difficult to indicate a time limit within which these applications will be disposed off as the appointments can be made only upon availability of suitable posts and subject to the applicant fulfilling all conditions laid down for such compassionate appointments.

[Translation]

Environment Policy

4787. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to declare new Environment and Forest Policy; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) and (b) The Government policy on environment and forest has been enunciated in the National Conservation Strategy and Policy Statement on Environment and Development (1992), the Policy Statement for Abatement of Pollution (1992), and the National Forest Policy (1988). The environmental issues being dynamic, the policies on environment are evolved keeping in view the requirements of the day. Government of India is contemplating to amend the National Forest Policy; 1988.

Deep Sea Fishing

4788. SHRI L. RAMANA : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to take more interest in the deep sea water fishing;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of trawlers available at present with the Government; and

(d) the number of trawlers are likely to be increased in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI DILIP KUMAR RAY) : (a) and (b) The Government has been giving policy and financial support for development of deep sea fishing sector. In the wake of agitation by fishermen and fish workers groups, the New Deep Sea Fishing Policy of 1991 has been rescinded. However, the deep sea fishing vessels with valid approvals under this Policy have been allowed to operate. Action has been initiated to formulate an amended deep sea fishing policy.

(c) and (d) The Government does not operate deep sea fishing trawlers for commercial purposes. However, in the private sector, about 90 Indian owned vessels are operating. In addition to these, there are valid approvals for operation of 49 and 37 deep sea fishing vessels under Joint Venture and Leasing respectively, out of which 21 & 12 vessels are operating at present. As the 1991 Policy has been rescinded, no new approvals are being granted.

[English]

Requirement of Foodgrains under Public Distribution System

4789. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA :
SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY :
SHRI MAHESH KUMAR M. KANODIA :

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria for distribution of essential commodities to the States under the Public Distribution System;

(b) whether essential commodities are being distributed to Bihar and Gujarat under the Public Distribution System in accordance with their requirements;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Allocation of essential commodities under PDS from the Central Pool is made on a month to month basis after taking into account the availability to stock in the Central Pool, *inter-se* demand of the States/UTs, market availability of commodities, seasonal factors, off-take against allocations made etc. However, w.e.f. the month of June, 1997 quota of rice and wheat is allocated on the basis of annual average lifting for 10 years as per TPDS guidelines. The allocation of levy sugar is made at a uniform rate of 425 gms. per capita per month as per 1991 population. The allocation of kerosene is made on the basis of past demand, offtake trend and relative need while an attempt is being made to bring those States where the per capita availability of kerosene is less than the national average, to national average level.

(b) to (d) Allocation of essential commodities under PDS is made to Bihar and Gujarat as per above criteria. The details of allocation during the last three years are given in Statement enclosed.

Statement

Allocation of essential commodities to the State of Bihar and Gujarat during last three years and actual lifting by the States

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Commodity	Bihar			Gujarat		
	1994	1995	1996	1994	1995	1996
Wheat						
Allocation	702.40	705.60	702.70	642.00	814.00	670.00
Lifting	271.20	197.50	399.70	365.10	426.50	595.10
Rice						
Allocation	354.40	381.60	384.50	414.00	414.00	369.50
Lifting	50.90	19.70	27.10	191.40	202.20	270.60
Sugar (100% lifting)	412.78	414.17	461.11	198.94	202.06	213.77
Edible Oils						
Allocations	-	-	0.90	19.30	44.89	42.00
Lifting	-	-	-	18.46	46.55	41.16
Kerosene						
Allocation	554.99	596.22	642.81	759.37	814.95	824.02
Lifting	556.41	595.91	641.60	807.19	817.03	829.29

Voluntary Organisations

4790. SHRI SOHAN VEER SINGH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of voluntary organisations working for the development of environment and protection of wild life in the country, State-wise;

(b) the financial assistance provided to those organisations by the State and Central Government during each of the last three years along with the names of organisations;

(c) whether the Government have received complaints regarding the misuse of funds by these organisations; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Public Distribution System in U.P. and Bihar

4791. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the NCAER compiled Human Development profile has indicated that the net purchase of food in rural household through Public Distribution System in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar is as low as Rs. 5/- per annum;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government to the same;

(c) the estimated number of rural household below the poverty line in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar; and

(d) the specific administrative efforts made to ensure that the subsidised goods actually reach this segment?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir. According to the study on Human Development Profile of Rural India, 1994, compiled by NCAER, 5% of the households in Bihar and UP derive benefit under the Public Distribution System.

(b) The operational aspect of the PDS is the responsibility of the concerned State Government. However, under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), foodgrains to the Below Poverty Line (BPL) population will be made available at specially subsidised prices, which is expected to increase the percentage of beneficiaries deriving benefits under the PDS in the two States.